PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 2001-045192

(43)Date of publication of application : 16.02.2001

(51)Int.Cl.	H04N 1/00
	G06F 1/00
	G06F 15/00

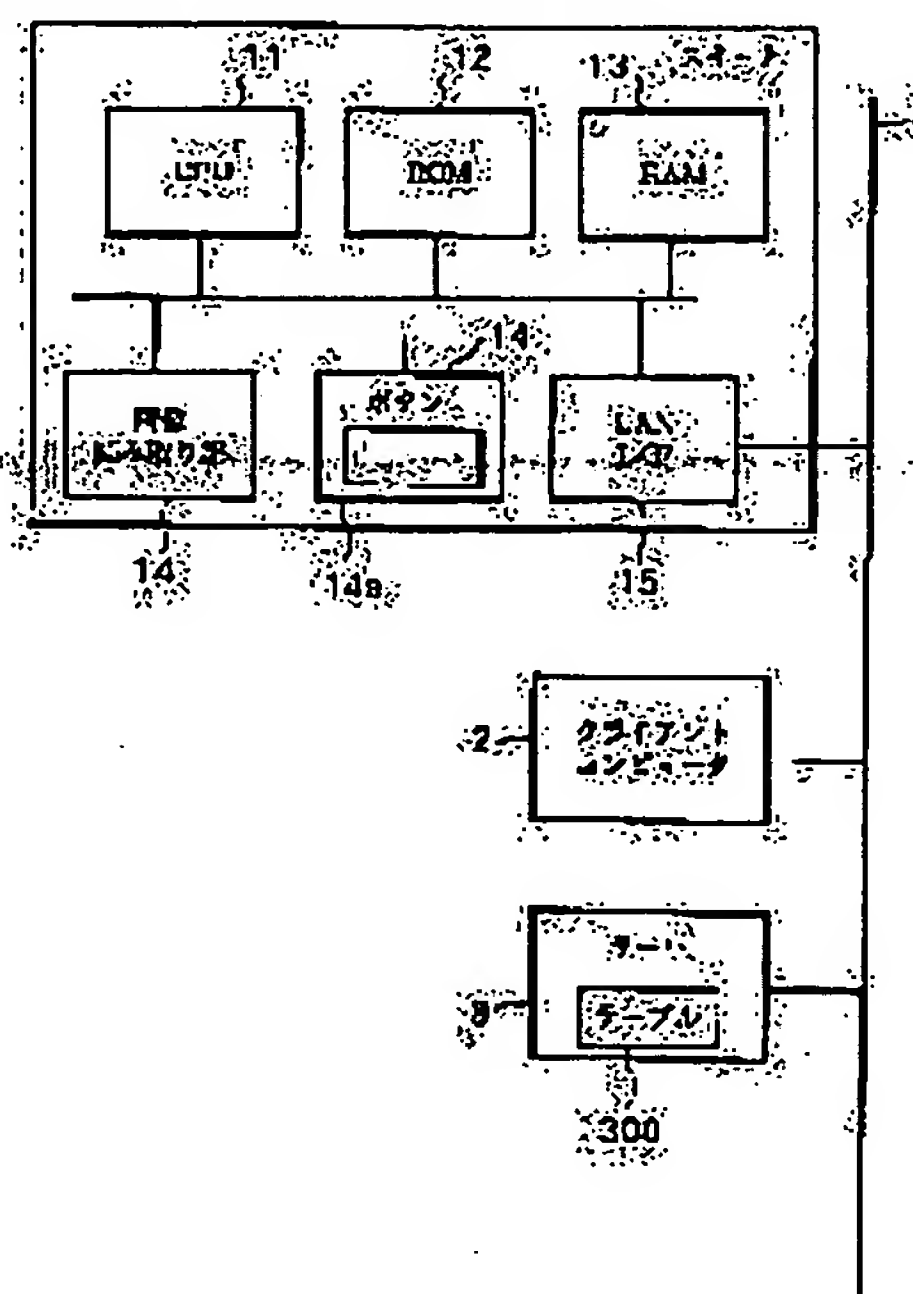| (21)Application number : 11-215743	(71)Applicant : CANON INC
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(54) IMAGE PROCESSING UNIT, ITS CONTROL METHOD AND MEMORY MEDIUM

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To eliminate a troublesome job to designate a client computer of a transfer destination of a read original image with respect to a push type network scanner.

SOLUTION: A button 14 to instruct reading of an original image is provided with a fingerprint read section 14a to read a fingerprint pattern of an operator. The fingerprint read section 14a reads a fingerprint pattern of the operator when the button 14 of the scanner 1 is depressed and transfers the fingerprint pattern to a server 3. The server 3 refers to a table 300 to specify an address of a client computer 2 of a user and transfers the address to the scanner 1. The scanner 1 transfers a read original image to the client computer 2 of the user according to the received address.

LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to a memory medium at an image processing system and its control approach list.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] With the network scanner of the conventional push type, in order to specify the address of the client of the destination of a reading image, the user needed to choose the address which corresponds from the address book which inputs the address which corresponds to a network scanner, or is registered beforehand.

[0003] Moreover, with the conventional network scanner, in case a reading image is transmitted to a server, the approach of entering a password into a network scanner in advance of the transfer for security is adopted.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, in the above-mentioned conventional example, in order to specify the address of the destination or to enter the password for the security on a server, the user needed to operate the key of the control panel of a scanner etc. That is, it needed reading of an image and to be operated conventionally other than transfer directions.

[0005] This invention aims at easy-izing the activity which makes an operator recognize to the image processing system which has the function for it to be made in view of the above-mentioned background, for example, to read a manuscript.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] The image processing system concerning the 1st side face of this invention is characterized by to have a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image, a manuscript reading means to answer actuation of said control unit and to read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and an acquisition means acquire the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0007] It is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to have further an image transfer means to transmit a reading manuscript image through a network to the client computer specified based on said operator information.

[0008] It is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to have further an image transfer means to transmit a

reading manuscript image to a server through a network as possessions of the operator who directed the reading.

[0009] As for said acquisition means, it is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to acquire the operator information which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to a server through a network, answers this, and is sent through said network from said server.

[0010] As for said fingerprint reading means, being included in said control unit is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable.

[0011] When said control unit is operated by the operator, as for said fingerprint reading means, it is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to read this operator's fingerprint pattern.

[0012] It is an image processing system concerning the 2nd side face of this invention, and it is characterized by to have a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image, a manuscript reading means answer actuation of said control unit and read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and a transfer means transmit a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0013] The control approach of the image processing system concerning the 3rd side face of this invention The manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process which acquires the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0014] The control approach of the image processing system concerning the 4th side face of this invention The manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0015] The manuscript read station in which the memory medium concerning the 5th side face of this invention reads a manuscript image, It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program The manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process which acquires the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0016] The manuscript read station which is a memory medium concerning the 6th side face of this invention, and reads a control unit and a manuscript image, It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program It is characterized by including the manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0017]

[Detailed description] Drawing 1 is drawing showing the rough configuration of the image processing system concerning the gestalt of suitable operation of this invention. This image processing system comes to connect a scanner (image processing system) 1, a client computer (information processor) 2, and a server (information processor) 3 by the network (this example LAN) 4.

[0018] A scanner 1 is the so-called network of a push type, reads a manuscript image by the manuscript read station 14, and has the function to transmit a reading manuscript image to a client computer 2 or a server 3. CPU11 controls each device in a scanner 1 according to the software stored in ROM12. Drawing 2 is drawing showing typically the program stored in ROM12. Moreover, drawing 4 is drawing showing roughly the flow of the program stored in ROM12.

[0019] A carbon button 14 is a carbon button for a user (operator) to direct reading of a manuscript image and a transfer of a reading manuscript image, and is equipped with fingerprint read station 14a for reading a user's fingerprint pattern. RAM13 stores temporarily User Information, such as address information sent from a reading manuscript image, a reading fingerprint pattern, and a server 3.

[0020] A scanner 1 can communicate through other equipment and networks 4 by LAN-I/F15.

[0021] A client computer 2 receives and processes the reading manuscript image transmitted from a scanner 1. A client computer 2 is accessed from other equipments according to the predetermined address.

[0022] A server 3 has the table 300 for associating and carrying out User Information and a user's fingerprint pattern of the account name of the address of a client computer 2 and other client computers (un-illustrating), and the user on this server, a password, etc. From referring to a table 300, a server 3 specifies the address of the client computer of the user concerned based on the fingerprint pattern sent from a scanner 1, and transmits the address to a scanner 1. Drawing 3 is drawing showing an example of a table 300.

[0023] Drawing 4 is a flow chart which shows the flow of actuation of a scanner 1. In addition, the processing shown in this flow chart is controlled by CPU11 based on the program stored in ROM12.

[0024] Here, in order to simplify explanation, a network 4 shall be LAN, a scanner 1, a client computer 2, and one server 3 shall be connected to this network 4 at a time, but these can be made into two or more sets in case a system is built actually.

[0025] Moreover, since a known approach is employable as data transfer processing between a scanner 1, a server 3, and a client computer 2 at reading processing of the manuscript image in a scanner 1 and reading processing of a fingerprint pattern, the

processing that specifies the address of a client computer based on a fingerprint pattern in a server 3, and a list, the explanation is omitted here.

[0026] Moreover, by this system, according to the transfer request of the image from a scanner 1, the application and the driver for receiving an image shall be started automatically, shall receive an image in a band unit from a scanner 1 by the driver, and shall hand over to application in a client computer 2.

[0027] At step S41, a scanner 1 will progress to step S42, if waiting and a carbon button 15 are pushed [that a carbon button 15 is pushed and], it is step S42, and reads a user's fingerprint pattern by fingerprint read station 14a prepared in this carbon button 15, and stores it in RAM13 temporarily.

[0028] At step S43, the fingerprint pattern stored in RAM13 is transmitted to a server 3 through LAN-I/F16. On the other hand, in a server 3, by comparing each fingerprint pattern ("fingerprint A" - "Fingerprint E") registered into the table 3 shown in the fingerprint pattern received from the scanner 1, and drawing 3 , the address of the client computer 2 of the user concerning the received fingerprint pattern is specified, and the address is transmitted to a scanner 1. Here, in addition to the address, corresponding account and a corresponding password may be transmitted to a scanner 1.

[0029] At step S44, a scanner 1 will progress that the address is transmitted from a server 3 to step S45, if waiting and the address are received.

[0030] step S45 -- a scanner 1 -- the image read station 14 -- a part for one band of a manuscript image (for example, 64 rasters) -- reading -- it stores in RAM13 temporarily. It transmits to the client computer 2 which has the address which received the image for one band stored in RAM13 at step S44 through LAN-I/F16 at step S46. Here, account and a password may be collectively transmitted to a client computer 2.

[0031] At step S47, it judges whether the transfer of all images was completed, and when having not ended, return and when it ends, a series of processings about reading and a transfer of a manuscript image are ended to step S45.

[0032] The reading image of a manuscript can be transmitted to a server 3 from a scanner 1, and the image concerned can also be made to save at step S46 here at a server 3. In this case, as for a server 3, it is desirable to relate with the user name as a user's possessions specified based on the fingerprint pattern received previously from a scanner 1 (i.e., the user concerned), account, and a password, and to save the reading image concerned. Thereby, the activity of the reading manuscript image concerned by other users is controllable. Moreover, processing of step S44, i.e., the processing which transmits the address to a scanner 1 from a server 3, may be omitted in this case.

[0033] Moreover, in the gestalt of the above-mentioned operation, a scanner 1 and a server 3 can also be unified and the function (for example, function to specify a user, the address, account, and a password based on a fingerprint pattern) of a server 3 may be prepared in a scanner 1. In the case of the latter, a user, the address, account, a password, etc. can be specified by scanner 1 independent one, for example, a reading manuscript image and a user, the address, account, a password, etc. can be transmitted to a server 3 or the corresponding client computer 2.

[0034] As mentioned above, according to the gestalt of this operation, only by a user operating the carbon button for directing reading actuation of a manuscript image, the user concerned can be specified and the reading image of the manuscript image concerned can be transmitted to the corresponding client computer. Therefore, a user is

released from the troublesome key stroke for inputting or choosing the information on the address etc. It is also possible to arrange in a separate location here, without unifying a carbon button 14 and fingerprint read station 14a. Also in this case, a user can make a scanner 1 recognize self only by touching fingerprint read station 14a.

[0035] Moreover, according to the gestalt of this operation, without carrying out troublesome actuation for entering account, a password, etc., a user can relate a reading manuscript image with self, namely, can save as self possessions at a server etc.

[0036] In addition, even if it applies this invention to the system which consists of two or more devices (for example, a host computer, an interface device, a reader, a printer, etc.), it may be applied to the equipments (for example, a copying machine, facsimile apparatus, etc.) which consist of one device.

[0037] Moreover, it cannot be overemphasized by the object of this invention supplying the storage (or record medium) which recorded the program code of the software which realizes the function of the operation gestalt mentioned above to a system or equipment, and reading and performing the program code with which the computer (or CPU and MPU) of the system or equipment was stored in the storage that it is attained. In this case, the function of the operation gestalt which the program code itself by which reading appearance was carried out from the storage mentioned above will be realized, and the storage which memorized that program code will constitute this invention. Moreover, it cannot be overemphasized that it is contained also when the function of the operation gestalt which performed a part or all of processing that the operating system (OS) which is working on a computer is actual, based on directions of the program code, and the function of the operation gestalt mentioned above by performing the program code which the computer read is not only realized, but was mentioned above by the processing is realized.

[0038] Furthermore, after the program code by which reading appearance was carried out from a storage is written in the memory with which the functional expansion unit connected to the functional expansion card inserted in the computer or a computer is equipped, it is needless to say in being contained also when the function of the operation gestalt which performed a part or all of processing that the CPU with which the functional expansion card and functional expansion unit are equipped based on directions of the program code is actual, and mentioned above by the processing is realized.

[0039]

[Effect of the Invention] According to this invention, the activity which makes the image processing system which has the function to read a manuscript, for example recognize an operator can be easy-ized.

[Translation done.]

2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.
3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]
[Claim 1] The image processing system characterized by having a manuscript reading means to be an image processing system, to answer actuation of a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image and said control unit, and to read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means to read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and an acquisition means to acquire the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[Claim 2] The image processing system according to claim 1 characterized by having further an image transfer means to transmit a reading manuscript image through a network to the client computer specified based on said operator information.

[Claim 3] The image processing system according to claim 1 characterized by having further an image transfer means to transmit a reading manuscript image to a server through a network as possessions of the operator who directed the reading.

[Claim 4] Said acquisition means is an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 1 characterized by acquiring the operator information which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to a server through a network, answers this, and is sent through said network from said server thru/or claim 3.

[Claim 5] Said fingerprint reading means is an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 1 characterized by being included in said control unit thru/or claim 4.

[Claim 6] Said fingerprint reading means is an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 1 characterized by reading this operator's fingerprint pattern when said control unit is operated by the operator thru/or claim 4.

[Claim 7] The image processing system characterized by to have a manuscript reading means to be an image processing system, to answer actuation of a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image and said control unit, and to read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means to read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and a transfer means to transmit a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[Claim 8] The control approach of the image processing system characterized by to include the manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process that acquire the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[Claim 9] The control approach of the image processing system according to claim 8 characterized by including further the image transfer process of transmitting a reading manuscript image through a network to the client computer specified based on said

operator information.

[Claim 10] The control approach of the image processing system according to claim 8 characterized by including further the image transfer process of transmitting a reading manuscript image to a server through a network as possessions of the operator who directed the reading.

[Claim 11] The control approach of an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 8 characterized by acquiring the operator information which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to a server through a network, answers this at said acquisition process, and is sent through said network from said server thru/or claim 10.

[Claim 12] Said fingerprint read station is the control approach of an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 8 characterized by being included in said control unit thru/or claim 11.

[Claim 13] The control approach of an image processing system given in any 1 term of claim 8 characterized by reading this operator's fingerprint pattern at said fingerprint reading process when said control unit is operated by the operator thru/or claim 11.

[Claim 14] The control approach of the image processing system characterized by to include the manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmit a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[Claim 15] It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program The manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, The memory medium characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process which acquires the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[Claim 16] It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program The manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, and the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, The memory medium characterized by including a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[Translation done.]

MEANS

[Means for Solving the Problem] The image processing system concerning the 1st side face of this invention is characterized by to have a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image, a manuscript reading means to answer actuation of said control unit and to read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and an acquisition means acquire the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0007] It is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to have further an image transfer means to transmit a reading manuscript image through a network to the client computer specified based on said operator information.

[0008] It is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to have further an image transfer means to transmit a reading manuscript image to a server through a network as possessions of the operator who directed the reading.

[0009] As for said acquisition means, it is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to acquire the operator information which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to a server through a network, answers this, and is sent through said network from said server.

[0010] As for said fingerprint reading means, being included in said control unit is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable.

[0011] When said control unit is operated by the operator, as for said fingerprint reading means, it is [in / the image processing system concerning the 1st side face of above-mentioned this invention] desirable to read this operator's fingerprint pattern.

[0012] It is an image processing system concerning the 2nd side face of this invention, and it is characterized by to have a control unit for an operator to direct reading of a manuscript image, a manuscript reading means answer actuation of said control unit and read a manuscript image, a fingerprint reading means read the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and a transfer means transmit a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0013] The control approach of the image processing system concerning the 3rd side face of this invention The manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads

a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process which acquires the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0014] The control approach of the image processing system concerning the 4th side face of this invention The manuscript reading process of being the control approach of an image processing system of having a control unit, the manuscript read station which reads a manuscript image, and the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern, answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0015] The manuscript read station in which the memory medium concerning the 5th side face of this invention reads a manuscript image, It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program The manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image by said manuscript read station, It is characterized by including the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit by said fingerprint read station, and the acquisition process which acquires the operator information about an operator based on a reading fingerprint pattern.

[0016] The manuscript read station which is a memory medium concerning the 6th side face of this invention, and reads a control unit and a manuscript image, It is the memory medium which stored the control program of the image processing system which has the fingerprint read station which reads a fingerprint pattern. This control program It is characterized by including the manuscript reading process of answering actuation of said control unit and reading a manuscript image, the fingerprint reading process of reading the fingerprint pattern of the operator concerning actuation of said control unit, and a reading manuscript image and the transfer process which transmits a reading fingerprint pattern to an information processor through a network.

[0017]

[Detailed description] Drawing 1 is drawing showing the rough configuration of the image processing system concerning the gestalt of suitable operation of this invention. This image processing system comes to connect a scanner (image processing system) 1, a client computer (information processor) 2, and a server (information processor) 3 by the network (this example LAN) 4.

[0018] A scanner 1 is the so-called network of a push type, reads a manuscript image by the manuscript read station 14, and has the function to transmit a reading manuscript image to a client computer 2 or a server 3. CPU11 controls each device in a scanner 1 according to the software stored in ROM12. Drawing 2 is drawing showing typically the program stored in ROM12. Moreover, drawing 4 is drawing showing roughly the flow of the program stored in ROM12.

[0019] A carbon button 14 is a carbon button for a user (operator) to direct reading of a

manuscript image and a transfer of a reading manuscript image, and is equipped with fingerprint read station 14a for reading a user's fingerprint pattern. RAM13 stores temporarily User Information, such as address information sent from a reading manuscript image, a reading fingerprint pattern, and a server 3.

[0020] A scanner 1 can communicate through other equipment and networks 4 by LAN-I/F15.

[0021] A client computer 2 receives and processes the reading manuscript image transmitted from a scanner 1. A client computer 2 is accessed from other equipments according to the predetermined address.

[0022] A server 3 has the table 300 for associating and carrying out User Information and a user's fingerprint pattern of the account name of the address of a client computer 2 and other client computers (un-illustrating), and the user on this server, a password, etc. From referring to a table 300, a server 3 specifies the address of the client computer of the user concerned based on the fingerprint pattern sent from a scanner 1, and transmits the address to a scanner 1. Drawing 3 is drawing showing an example of a table 300.

[0023] Drawing 4 is a flow chart which shows the flow of actuation of a scanner 1. In addition, the processing shown in this flow chart is controlled by CPU11 based on the program stored in ROM12.

[0024] Here, in order to simplify explanation, a network 4 shall be LAN, a scanner 1, a client computer 2, and one server 3 shall be connected to this network 4 at a time, but these can be made into two or more sets in case a system is built actually.

[0025] Moreover, since a known approach is employable as data transfer processing between a scanner 1, a server 3, and a client computer 2 at reading processing of the manuscript image in a scanner 1 and reading processing of a fingerprint pattern, the processing that specifies the address of a client computer based on a fingerprint pattern in a server 3, and a list, the explanation is omitted here.

[0026] Moreover, by this system, according to the transfer request of the image from a scanner 1, the application and the driver for receiving an image shall be started automatically, shall receive an image in a band unit from a scanner 1 by the driver, and shall hand over to application in a client computer 2.

[0027] At step S41, a scanner 1 will progress to step S42, if waiting and a carbon button 15 are pushed [that a carbon button 15 is pushed and], it is step S42, and reads a user's fingerprint pattern by fingerprint read station 14a prepared in this carbon button 15, and stores it in RAM13 temporarily.

[0028] At step S43, the fingerprint pattern stored in RAM13 is transmitted to a server 3 through LAN-I/F16. On the other hand, in a server 3, by comparing each fingerprint pattern ("fingerprint A" - "Fingerprint E") registered into the table 3 shown in the fingerprint pattern received from the scanner 1, and drawing 3 , the address of the client computer 2 of the user concerning the received fingerprint pattern is specified, and the address is transmitted to a scanner 1. Here, in addition to the address, corresponding account and a corresponding password may be transmitted to a scanner 1.

[0029] At step S44, a scanner 1 will progress that the address is transmitted from a server 3 to step S45, if waiting and the address are received.

[0030] step S45 -- a scanner 1 -- the image read station 14 -- a part for one band of a manuscript image (for example, 64 rasters) -- reading -- it stores in RAM13 temporarily. It transmits to the client computer 2 which has the address which received the image for

one band stored in RAM13 at step S44 through LAN-I/F16 at step S46. Here, account and a password may be collectively transmitted to a client computer 2.

[0031] At step S47, it judges whether the transfer of all images was completed, and when having not ended, return and when it ends, a series of processings about reading and a transfer of a manuscript image are ended to step S45.

[0032] The reading image of a manuscript can be transmitted to a server 3 from a scanner 1, and the image concerned can also be made to save at step S46 here at a server 3. In this case, as for a server 3, it is desirable to relate with the user name as a user's possessions specified based on the fingerprint pattern received previously from a scanner 1 (i.e., the user concerned), account, and a password, and to save the reading image concerned. Thereby, the activity of the reading manuscript image concerned by other users is controllable. Moreover, processing of step S44, i.e., the processing which transmits the address to a scanner 1 from a server 3, may be omitted in this case.

[0033] Moreover, in the gestalt of the above-mentioned operation, a scanner 1 and a server 3 can also be unified and the function (for example, function to specify a user, the address, account, and a password based on a fingerprint pattern) of a server 3 may be prepared in a scanner 1. In the case of the latter, a user, the address, account, a password, etc. can be specified by scanner 1 independent one, for example, a reading manuscript image and a user, the address, account, a password, etc. can be transmitted to a server 3 or the corresponding client computer 2.

[0034] As mentioned above, according to the gestalt of this operation, only by a user operating the carbon button for directing reading actuation of a manuscript image, the user concerned can be specified and the reading image of the manuscript image concerned can be transmitted to the corresponding client computer. Therefore, a user is released from the troublesome key stroke for inputting or choosing the information on the address etc. It is also possible to arrange in a separate location here, without unifying a carbon button 14 and fingerprint read station 14a. Also in this case, a user can make a scanner 1 recognize self only by touching fingerprint read station 14a.

[0035] Moreover, according to the gestalt of this operation, without carrying out troublesome actuation for entering account, a password, etc., a user can relate a reading manuscript image with self, namely, can save as self possessions at a server etc.

[0036] In addition, even if it applies this invention to the system which consists of two or more devices (for example, a host computer, an interface device, a reader, a printer, etc.), it may be applied to the equipments (for example, a copying machine, facsimile apparatus, etc.) which consist of one device.

[0037] Moreover, it cannot be overemphasized by the object of this invention supplying the storage (or record medium) which recorded the program code of the software which realizes the function of the operation gestalt mentioned above to a system or equipment, and reading and performing the program code with which the computer (or CPU and MPU) of the system or equipment was stored in the storage that it is attained. In this case, the function of the operation gestalt which the program code itself by which reading appearance was carried out from the storage mentioned above will be realized, and the storage which memorized that program code will constitute this invention. Moreover, it cannot be overemphasized that it is contained also when the function of the operation gestalt which performed a part or all of processing that the operating system (OS) which is working on a computer is actual, based on directions of the program code, and the

function of the operation gestalt mentioned above by performing the program code which the computer read is not only realized, but was mentioned above by the processing is realized.

[0038] Furthermore, after the program code by which reading appearance was carried out from a storage is written in the memory with which the functional expansion unit connected to the functional expansion card inserted in the computer or a computer is equipped, it is needless to say in being contained also when the function of the operation gestalt which performed a part or all of processing that the CPU with which the functional expansion card and functional expansion unit are equipped based on directions of the program code is actual, and mentioned above by the processing is realized.

[Translation done.]